

Amendments to the Specification:

Please replace paragraph [0013] with the following amended paragraph:

[0013] In a manner generally known per se, a press 1, in the illustrated embodiment, an eccentric press, has a frame 2 in which a slide 3 carries out an oscillating movement. A top tool 4 is mounted on the slide 3 and, for machining workpieces 6, cooperates with a bottom tool 5 rigidly connected with the frame 2. The press 1 also has a driving device 7 which, illustrated only by a dashed circle, is completely visible in Figure 2 and is constructed, for example, as an electric motor. A drive shaft 8 extends from the driving device 7 and has an eccentric 9 on which a connecting rod 10 is mounted which connects the drive shaft 8 with the slide 3 to thus permit the movement of the slide 3. Instead of being constructed as an eccentric press, the press 1 can also be constructed, for example, as a knuckle joint press without departing from the scope of the present invention. The connecting rod 10 has a large eye 11 for receiving the drive shaft 8 and a small eye 12 for the connection with the slide 3.

Please replace paragraph [0021] with the following amended paragraph:

[0021] Furthermore, several pilot valves 28 are shown in Figure 2 and are used when the press 1 has several slides, i.e., as a press working line or press system with several press stations as seen in Figure 3. These pilot valves 28, which in the illustrated embodiment are coupled to the safety valve 27, have the effect that, in the event of an overloading of one of the connecting rods 10, all

overload safety devices 13 of the respective press station and all slides 3 are made load-free. This is implemented in that the fluids 18 of all devices 13 are connected with one another. This connection may be provided on the primary side or on the secondary side. All valves 24, 25, 26, 27 and 28 can be constructed as so-called cartridges, where a movable cylinder is provided as a triggering device and causes the breakdown of the oil pressure. Optionally, safety valves may also be provided for an ejector system of the press 1 as will be known to one skilled in the art.